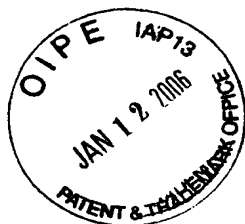


REPLACEMENT ABSTRACT



PROCESS FOR IMPREGNATING, REFINING, AND BLEACHING WOOD CHIPS HAVING LOW BLEACHABILITY TO PREPARE MECHANICAL PULPS HAVING HIGH BRIGHTNESS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Wood chips having low bleachability are impregnated with a chemical liquor at a pH range of 7-12 in aqueous solution and the chemical liquor from the impregnated chips is drained, whereby extractives contained in the chips and consuming bleaching agents can be removed to improve the effect of bleaching agents in a subsequent bleaching step. Bleached mechanical pulp is prepared by defibration by primary refining - bleaching - beating by secondary refining wherein pulp fibers are washed after defibrating wood chips having low bleachability and before bleaching the pulp fibers, whereby the amount of bleaching agents used can be reduced and bleached mechanical pulp having a Hunter brightness of 45-65% after secondary refining can be obtained.